



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Testimony By:
Rep. James Maroney
March 13, 2014

SB: 29 "An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements, Transportation and Other Purposes"

Senator Fonfara, Representative Widlitz, and honorable members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, it is an honor to present testimony to you.

For the record, my name is Representative James Maroney. I represent the 119th district which consists of Milford and Orange. I appear before you today in support of Senate Bill 29 – An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements, Transportation and Other Purposes. More specifically Sec. 9 which deals with school security infrastructure.

In the wake of the Sandy Hook tragedy, many Connecticut schools have increased their security to help protect the well-being of their students. The grants allocated in SB 29 will help schools throughout the state enhance their security. It is imperative that we protect all of our students, however, this bill leaves out the many students who attend private schools.

I have three Catholic schools located in the towns I represent, and these schools deserve equal access to these grants. These schools struggle to provide an educational alternative for students at an affordable price, however, they like many charities are suffering themselves financially. For them to make these security upgrades without receiving any state funds means that they will need to either cut back on educational expenses or scholarship funds to needy students.

Please, open the school security grants up to the Catholic schools in this bill. All students deserve a safe learning environment. Thank you for your consideration.

James Maroney